

appointing in this respect. The book has a limited field in general medical libraries and the private shelves of experts in the work, but for the general practitioner it will prove more confusing than helpful.

H. E. R.

Nervous and Mental Diseases. By Archibald Church, M.D., Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases in Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago; and Frederick Peterson, M.D., formerly Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University. Eighth edition, revised. Octavo volume of 940 pages, with 350 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1914. Cloth, \$5.00 net; Half Morocco, \$6.50 net.

This eighth edition is an enlargement upon the previous editions, bringing up to date the newer methods of treatment and the more recent knowledge, especially in regard to syphilis of the nervous system.

It is an ideal book for every practitioner of medicine, because it takes up in detail from an analytical standpoint, not only the methods of taking the history and making the physical examination, but it dwells at great length upon the meaning of all the possible physical signs that can be obtained.

The book is replete with fine intelligent photographs and schemes for making differential diagnosis. The section dwelling on the mental conditions is essentially the same as in the previous editions, only amplified. Any detail amplification of its contents would be ambiguous. For teaching purposes, the book is ideal.

J. M. W.

The Treatment of Fractures. With Notes Upon a Few Common Dislocations. By Charles L. Scudder, M.D., Surgeon to the Massachusetts General Hospital; Associate in Surgery at the Harvard Medical School. Eighth Edition, Revised and Enlarged. Octavo volume of 734 pages, with 1057 original illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1915. Polished Buckram, \$6.00 net; Half Morocco, \$7.50 net.

The frequent editions of this book, since its first publication in 1900, attest its popularity. The popularity is well deserved. The book is concise, clear and lucid. The author is successful in making his meaning known, and has chosen his illustrations well to elucidate his text. The result is a work which is eminently practical, and furnishes the reader with a reliable guide in settling the many points of technique in the treatment of fractures. It tells not only what to do, but how to do it. The author favors the employment of the autogenous bone graft in cases of delayed union, and of non-union, and maintains that definite indications must be present to justify open treatment, as a routine method in fractures in general. The abduction treatment of fractures of the femoral neck is preferred. The shoulder cap, in fractures of the humerus still finds favor. Both plaster of paris and wooden splints are employed, and ready-made splints are justly condemned. The employment of the term "upper arm" is unfortunate. Early massage after fracture is recommended. The statement that simple fracture of the carpal bones is unusual will not meet with general acceptance. The book contains an excellent index and a rather brief bibliography. It is well made up, and typographical errors are conspicuous by their absence.

ELY.

Manual of Obstetrics. By Edward P. Davis, A.M., M.D., Professor of Obstetrics in the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. 12 mo. of 463 pages, 171 illustrations. Philadelphia and Lon-

don: W. B. Saunders Company, 1914. Cloth, \$2.25 net.

This little book is what the name implies—a manual. The divisions are logical: Anatomy and Physiology, Pregnancy, Labor, the Normal Puerperium, Obstetric Operations and the Foetus. There are sub-divisions of each of the above. Chapters are given on Obstetric Asepsis and Antisepsis and the Medico-Legal Aspects of Obstetric Practice, the latter giving some timely advice to the young practitioner in handling such cases as criminal abortion, infanticide and still-births.

The treatment of hemorrhage is discussed in much detail and the recommended measures meet with approval with one exception, viz.: the use of ergot in placenta praevia before delivery. The ill-advised use of ergot has made for the obstetrician some of the most dangerous complications and it seems wise to withhold ergot medication till the uterus is empty.

In like manner, we can not approve of the insertion of the finger into the child's mouth as an aid in the extraction of the after-coming head. Too often undue traction is made and results in dislocation or fracture of the lower jaw and makes necessary for the obstetrician a rather embarrassing explanation to the family.

In the puerperium, we have rarely found it necessary to catheterize the patient although the author states that one or two catheterizations are usually necessary before spontaneous voiding occurs.

On the whole, however, the book contains much valuable information and sound advice and with the exceptions noted above can be recommended.

H. A. S.

Pyelography (pyelo-Ureterography) A Study of the Normal and Pathologic Anatomy of the Renal Pelvis and Ureter. By William F. Braasch, M.D., Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. Octavo volume of 323 pages, containing 296 pyelograms. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1915. Cloth, \$5.00 net.

This monograph, the first in the literature on the subject, deserves careful reading by all physicians, specialists or otherwise, interested in the diagnosis of renal conditions. The author has been for many years a strong advocate of the value of pyelography, and, having a wealth of material at his disposal, his experience is unusually large and valuable. The interpretation of the various types of pelvic deformities, largely checked up by operative findings, is original and, in most cases, convincing. There is a tendency to overestimate the significance of minor changes. To one with the experience of the author only will it be possible to differentiate pyelitis, pyelonephritis and renal tuberculosis by pyelography. The difficulties of such interpretation, however, are clearly indicated in the text.

There are ten chapters. The history of pyelography is first thoroughly and accurately given. The chapter on "technic" includes a brief discussion of the selection of cases in which the indications and contraindications given are too few and too general. No emphasis is made of the fact that pyelography is a special rather than a routine method of renal diagnosis. The descriptions and illustrations of the normal types of pyelographic pelvis, and the details regarding major and minor calyces, are excellent and invaluable. Abnormal positions, as shown by pyelography, are well discussed. The chapters on mechanical and inflammatory dilatations contain much that is original. There is a commendable freedom from a didactic arrangement in the statement of these ideas some of which could easily have been so arranged; for example: Predominant distension of the pelvis indicates obstruction in the lower ureter, of calyces, in the upper ureter. Irregular outline of

calyces suggests inflammatory changes. A pyri-form pelvis indicates anomalous blood vessel hydronephrosis. A normal pelvis with dilatation of the calyces and upper ureter, or dilatation of the pelvis alone without changes in the calyces or upper ureter, indicates pyelitis, etc.

Chapters on renal and ureteral stone, conditions in which pyelography is of most practical value, are full of valuable suggestions. The value of the method in diagnosing and differentiating renal tumors is next outlined, and the monograph closes with an interesting compilation of congenital anomalies.

Careful study of this monograph will give a familiarity with the significance of dilatations, contractions, retractions and irregularities of the pelvic and ureteral outline necessary for the proper interpretation of the pyelogram. F. H.

Modern Medicine. Its Theory and Practice. In Original Contributions by American and Foreign Authors. Edited by Sir William Osler, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., Regius Professor of Medicine in Oxford University, England; formerly Professor of Medicine in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore; in the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and in McGill University, Montreal; and Thomas McCrae, M.D., Professor of Medicine in the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia; Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, London; formerly Associate Professor of Medicine in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. In five octavo volumes of about 1,000 pages each. Volume V. Diseases of the Nervous System; Diseases of the Locomotor System. Just ready. Price per volume, cloth, \$5.00 net; half morocco, \$7.00 net. Lea & Febiger, Publishers, Philadelphia and New York, 1915.

The following is a list of the authors and their subjects:

- Chapter I. Introduction to Diseases of the Nervous System. By Lewellys F. Barker, M.D.
- Chapter II. Diseases of the Motor Tracts. By William G. Spiller, M.D.
- Chapter III. The Combined System Diseases of the Spinal Cord. By Colin K. Russel, M.D.
- Chapter IV. Sclerosis of the Brain. By Edwin Bramwell, M.B., F.R.C.P. (Edin. and Lond.).
- Chapter V. Diseases of the Meninges. By Edwin Bramwell, M.B., F.R.C.P. (Edin. and Lond.).
- Chapter VI. Diffuse and Focal Diseases of the Spinal Cord. By E. Farquhar Buzzard, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Lond.).
- Chapter VII. Topical Diagnosis of Disease of the Brain. By Joseph Collins, M.D.
- Chapter VIII. Aphasia. By Joseph Collins, M.D.
- Chapter IX. Tumors of the Brain and Meninges. By Harvey Cushing, M.D.
- Chapter X. Hydrocephalus. By Harvey Cushing, M.D.
- Chapter XI. Acute Encephalitis and Brain Abscess. By E. E. Southard, M.D.
- Chapter XII. Diseases of the Cerebral Blood-vessels. By Henry M. Thomas, A.M., M.D.
- Chapter XIII. Diseases of the Cerebral Nerves. By E. W. Taylor, M.D.
- Chapter XIV. Diseases of the Peripheral Nerves. By Gordon M. Holmes, M.D., M.R.C.P.
- Chapter XV. Epilepsy. By L. Pierce Clark, M.D.
- Chapter XVI. Neurasthenia. The Traumatic Neuroses and Psychoses. By Charles W. Burr, M.D.
- Chapter XVII. Hysteria. By Smith Ely Jelliffe, A.M., M.D.
- Chapter XVIII. Migraines, Neuralgia, Professional Spasms, Occupational Neuroses, Tetany. By Smith Ely Jelliffe, A.M., M.D.
- Chapter XIX. Paralysis Agitans, Chorea, Choreiform Affections, Infantile Convulsions. By Daniel J. McCarthy, M.D.

Chapter XX. Myasthenia Gravis, Paramyoclonus Multiplex, Periodic Paralysis. By Daniel J. McCarthy, M.D.

Chapter XXI. Astasia-Abasia, Adiposis Dolorosa. By Daniel J. McCarthy, M.D.

Chapter XXII. Syphilitic Diseases of the Central Nervous System. By Bernard Sachs, M.D.

Chapter XXIII. Amaurotic Family Idiocy (Tay-Sachs Disease). By Bernard Sachs, M.D.

It may be seen from a reference to the above list of contributors that it contains the names of many distinguished neurologists. Viewed as a whole the work is comprehensive, concise and an absence of overlapping of the subjects is noted, which is often difficult to avoid when a treatise is made up of a series of monographs. Especial mention may be made of disturbances of more complex psychic processes by Barker in Introduction to Diseases of the Nervous System, Diseases of the Motor Tracts by Spiller, Diseases of the Meninges by Edwin Bramwell, also Focal Diseases of the Spinal Cord by the same author; the articles of Collins on Topical Diagnosis of Diseases of the Brain, and on Aphasia in which Marie's theory is set forth and discussed. Cushing has an excellent article on Tumors of the Brain and Meninges, and the subject of Hysteria is admirably presented by Jelliffe, who discusses the historical and theoretical aspects of this affection, including the Freudian Hypothesis. This book can be highly recommended to Internists and those in general practice of medicine, as well as to neurologists. W. F. S.

Diarrheal, Inflammatory, Obstetric, and Parasitic Diseases of the Gastro-Intestinal Tract. By Samuel G. Gant, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Diseases of the Colon, Sigmoid Flexure, Rectum, and Anus at the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital. Octavo of 604 pages, 181 illustrations. Philadelphia and London. W. B. Saunders Company, 1915. Cloth, \$6.00 net; half morocco \$7.50 net.

Dr. Gant has done a signal service for the medical profession in bringing together the many causes of diarrhea in one book and in illumining the subject by his large experience. There are many good chapters on intestinal tuberculosis, amebiasis and the operative treatment of severe colitis.

While fully appreciating the service the author has performed in producing for us so useful a book, we cannot help noticing certain defects which unfortunately are common to most of the text-books on diseases of the digestive tract.

First—in the effort to make the work encyclopediac and to enable the salesman to show the doctor that every conceivable and up-to-date detail is included, the books become padded with much that is useless, impracticable and often long since discarded.

Every disease that has ever been named must have its separate description, with symptomatology, differential diagnosis and treatment outlined, even when three or four such diseases can hardly be distinguished one from another at autopsy; and if they could be distinguished during life, the treatment would remain the same for all of them. The bewildered physician, reading up on a case, will find a symptom complex that seems to fit. Turning over the page he finds another disease described in practically the same words, and a little further on there is still another. If he does succeed, in this way, in naming his patient's trouble, is he any better off? It seems to us that a rational diagnosis should be based upon some understanding of the disturbed physiology. The food is going through the tract too fast: is this true for the whole intestine or is there slowing in some parts and hurrying in others; is the irritant to be found in the intestinal contents or is it a